



Glen Dimplex Jobs Protest Portadown

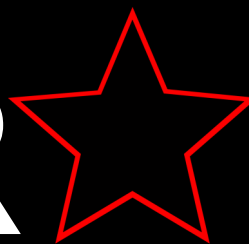


IWA-AIT Plenary Bogotá



Workers Fighting Spirit

BLACK STAR



It has been a popular liberal slogan for years to claim that if you don't vote then you can't complain, as if that is another of their rules that applies to us. We, the anarchists, are not playing that game of buying into bourgeois democracy in the service of capital and the state, either to 'challenge' its foundations or to 'raise the issues', as the fifty varieties of socialist party would have it.

Voting changes nothing and the popular cry of the majority in most places, especially among our class, that 'they're all the same' shows people understand the essential nature of election bollocks and the crap spouted by parties and politicians. Only by organising in our workplaces and communities can we overcome capitalism, through the thousands upon thousands of little fights and struggles against the forces now falling over each other to get us to join their great game, coupled with the mass revolutionary struggle for our collective freedom.

Northern Anarcho-Syndicalist News from Organise!

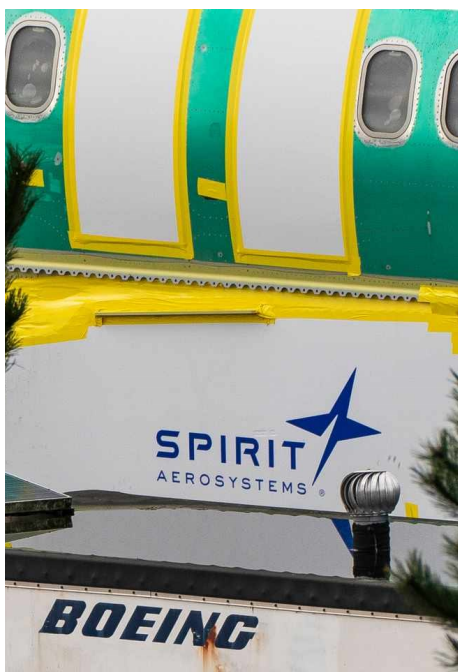
'We hope nothing from this election, save that it may serve to spur the workers on to abolish Parliament, the product and instrument of the capitalist system'

Sylvia Pankhurst

Workers Will Fight Threats

Workers at Spirit Aerosystems (formerly Bombardier, former Shorts Bros) are declaring their determination to fight any attempts to endanger the livelihoods of Northern Ireland's largest manufacturer following a takeover by Boeing.

About 40% of the workforce are employed on the Airbus contract which Boeing supports, but this leaves a majority of the workforce hanging in the balance and feeling under threat from what was until recently a hostile competitor. This threat extends beyond the north here to workers at Prestwick in Scotland who will also be in the firing line should Boeing decide only to focus on their Airbus



operation. If the new bosses want a fight they'll get one!

Solidarity in Portadown



A recent rally in Portadown was attended by Organise! members in support of local workers at Glen Dimplex, which produces storage heaters and heat pumps and who face losing their jobs as the company considers moving to Lithuania. The firm employs some 300 workers at the factory in Portadown and resisted union demands to pay its workforce the living wage back in 2018, all the time increasing its profits by tens of millions. Glen Dimplex claims that it will turn its Newry factory into a 'centre of excellence', but the

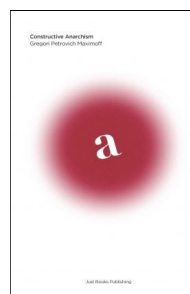
millionaire Naughton family from Dundalk who own the firm are clearly moving to Lithuania because labour costs there are roughly half what they are in the North. This is about profits pure and simple, and those gathered in Portadown were in no doubt about that despite hearing the usual appeals made by and to the political parties who are only too happy to make all sorts of empty promises at the moment. Hopefully, more protests and actions will follow and spread in solidarity with the Portadown workers.

Northern Anarcho-Syndicalist News from Organise!

Just Books Publishing



Just Books Publishing, set up by the Just Books Collective, has so far published its first two titles.



The first is a reprint of Gregori Maximoff's *Constructive Anarchism*, to mark the 100th year of existence of the International Workers Association (IWA) the Anarcho-Syndicalist

international founded in Berlin in 1922.

isbn 9781739723705

£7.99



The second title, now with a new cover, is Nick Heath's *The Idea. Anarchist Communism: Past, Present and Future* - a welcome and new comprehensive work on anarchist communism,

this book seeks to rehabilitate the current of anarchist-communism. To make it better known and understood.

...a good substantial book, and much needed. Lucidly written, it provides a rich brew of engaging discussions of the 'Idea' (anarchist communism as a political philosophy), interesting vignettes of many individual anarchists, and a great historical account of the many anarchist communist organisations over the past 150 years...

(Brian Morris on *The Idea*)

isbn 9781739723712

£15.00

Available from:

<https://organiseanarchistsireland.com/shop/>

IWA-AIT Bogotá Plenary



The International Workers' Association-Asociación Internacional de los Trabajadores (IWA-AIT), held our Plenary in Bogotá, Colombia, 29-30 June with around sixty delegates and observers, which Organise! Friends of the IWA-AIT joined online.

The Plenary was also attended by Chinese Anarcho-Syndicalists, invited as observers and who gave some useful accounts of conditions in China. Our comrades in Colombia, ULET, served as hosts and provided excellent support and hospitality throughout. A series of cultural events were organised for visiting sections and friends, and a public discussion took place before the Plenary, involving CNT-AIT Spain, ZSP of Poland and ULET.

A broad range of subjects were under

discussion during the Plenary as well as many internal matters about procedures and good practices. There was, in addition, agreement on future actions and campaigns. It was agreed that there would be a longer campaign around wage theft besides our annual Week Against Unpaid Wages held in October. In May 2025, there will also be an IWA week of action with both sections and friends organising a broad range of activities which Organise! look forward to participating in.

There was also further discussion on the lawsuits brought against the CNT-AIT Spain by the Spanish union affiliated to the CIT (Confederación Internacional del Trabajo or International Confederation of Labour). The CIT tried to take over the IWA and disenfranchise many member organisations in the past. Now it is continuing to sue numerous unions of the CNT-AIT for close to one million euros to try and bankrupt the CNT-AIT. Among the lawsuit claims is that workers have been joining the CNT-AIT 'by mistake' instead of the CIT-affiliated group calling itself the CNT! They also claim that the CNT-AIT can't call itself that because the IWA doesn't exist as far as they are concerned!

Truly bizarre stuff, comrades! The suits will be in court this September and our 'non-existent' IWA declared its determination to extend every solidarity to our comrades in the CNT-AIT.



Meanwhile... in Ballymena



I was going to begin this column by re-visiting the Ballymena bandstand story as the fuckers on the Council have given it to Kells, but I need to just get over that and my Buckfast memories as there's a better story from nearby Ahoghill.

Forget Johnny Houston, Billy McCandless and Billy McFarland, Ahoghill has a new legend - Aaron Sterritt, who single-handedly took down Flowplay, Microsoft (Xbox Live), Rockstar Games, Tumblr, and wait for it, the Ottawa Catholic School Board in a series of cyber attacks as a teenager. He was up in court recently charged with the hacking which involved the use of distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, but escaped with a suspended sentence. Most of the attacks took place in 2016 and sparked a PSNI and National Crime Agency investigation, though Sterritt had launched an earlier attack in 2015 against TalkTalk which cost them nearly £80 million. Give that man a crate of Buckie, he's a fuckin star!

Get Involved: Help Build A Working Class Alternative.



Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland which is affiliated to the International Worker's Association as 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, and particularly the history and tradition of struggle epitomised by the IWA - the anarcho-syndicalist international. Our history goes back to the original formation of Organise! by the Ballymena and Antrim Anarchist Groups in 1985. We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked about by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, nationalism and sectarianism, and sick of a greedy few getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier...



The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

We currently have members in Belfast, Cork, Derry, Letterkenny, Newtownabbey, Newry and Portadown and are building the organisation on the basis of active involvement and participation. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at <https://organiseanarchistsireland.com> and send an email to:

organiseasi@gmail.com

